



Sermon Growth Guide

December 27, 2020

Wonder - What I Have Seen

Luke 2:22-40

Key Verse: Luke 2:30-31 “For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations.”

Big Idea: God is always on the move; watch for Him!

Foundations

Like a bride waiting for her groom, Simeon was eagerly awaiting the Messiah as he moved through his day-to-day business in the Jerusalem temple.

First, we find Simeon waiting. “He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him,” our text states. Has the wonder of the Christmas story moved you to a posture of active waiting?

Second, Simeon is listening. Luke 2 continues, “It had been revealed to (Simeon) by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.” Has the wonder of the Christmas story moved you to a posture of active listening?

And third, Simeon is watching for the Messiah: “Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts.” Has the wonder of the Christmas story moved you to a posture of active watching?

When we strive to live in the tri-fold posture of active waiting, listening and watching, we become fueled with Kingdom wonder and are better prepared to partner in the healing that God continues to pour out over the nations.

Gathered together with your circle, open your time of study in prayer. Ask the Spirit to guide and guard your spiritual formation, your growth in Christ.

Understanding God’s Word

What do we learn about Simeon in Luke 2:22-28? What hard, but true words does Simeon give directly to Mary in verses 34-35? What does this mean?

Enter Anna in verse 36. What do we learn of Anna’s devotion to God and her life of worship?

Applying God’s Word

James Boice writes, “Do you want to celebrate Christmas? Then be amazed at it. Allow it to stretch your mind.” God is always on the move; watch for Him!

Drawing from the lives of Simeon and Anna, what one aspect of your devotion to Christ would you like to see sharpened in 2021?

Witnessing God’s Word

We read these words about Anna in verse 38: “Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.” What a witness! How can you narrow your focus to “be an Anna” in this New Year? Who would you like to come to know Jesus in 2021? With a wonder-filled posture and with your circle, pray for this salvation moment to happen.